



## Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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### Minutes of November 17, 2011

Chair pro-tem Cynthia Donaldson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Present were: Selectmen Cynthia Donaldson, William Brann, Gary McFarland; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon. Selectmen Cooper and Fennelly had called to say they were unable to attend due to work commitments.

**Agenda Review** – There were no changes to the printed agenda or addendum.

**Consideration of Minutes of November 3, 2011** – Cynthia asked whether any clarification was required on a motion in regard to the suspension of a commercial hauler at the transfer station. No changes were made. Several minor corrections were noted. Cynthia moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 3-0.**

**Expenditure Warrant 10** – Selectmen signed expenditure warrant 10 in the amount of \$189,214.82. Stu noted that he had to move \$110,000 from the investment management account into checking, and that the bulk of the warrant was the RSU 24 bill.

**Cash & Budget Report** – Stu reported that the check from the Municipal Review Committee came in after printing the report, so solid waste expenditures will be more than \$3,900 less than printed. He also pointed out the new format for the budget report and said he hoped it makes it easier to read. There were no questions regarding the report.

**Investment Management Report** – There were no questions regarding the report made available electronically.

**Hodgkins Trust Fund** – Stu reported a check from this fund for \$10,194.31 was recently received by the Town Office.

**Outstanding Demolition Debris Bills** – Stu reported two individuals have yet to pay old bills for debris disposal and asked for guidance on collecting them. Bill asked if the town deals with a collection agency. Stu said it does not, but could threaten to send it to such an agency. Cynthia asked if the board would be ready to follow up on that threat. There was a discussion on how this has been handled in the past. Stu reported the unpaid amounts in the past have been written off because they generally were small and the people who owed them had moved out of town or passed away. Selectmen favored sending another bill. Stu said he would do so and advise the board periodically on the collection process.

**Foreclosure Notices** – Stu reported the date to send foreclosure notices is next Tuesday, and the list seems a little longer than usual. He noted that several of the properties on the unpaid tax list from 2009 are also being foreclosed on by banks.

**Unpaid 2009 Personal Property Tax** – Stu reported that a tax of \$7.76 owed by DFS Funding has not been paid, and it would cost more than it's worth to try to collect the bill. He suggested that the Board authorize the tax collector to write it off pursuant to 36-MRSA §760-A. Gary moved to do so. Bill 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 3-0, Selectmen signed the order.**

**Fenway Park Brick** – Stu reported that just under \$100 has been received to put toward a brick with the town's name to be placed in a walk at Fenway Park. He asked how the Board wished to pursue this. Cynthia suggested that we find out how much longer bricks would be sold, and continue trying to collect the money until spring training starts.

**Street Sign Thefts** – Stu said he'd written up a memo in regard to the recent wave of street sign thefts and estimated the cost to replace signs, holders and posts at \$350. He said Selectman Jo Cooper had suggested a reward. Cynthia asked if the board could maybe offer a chance for stolen signs to be returned with no questions asked. Bill and Gary said they liked that idea, and following a brief discussion it was agreed to try that until January 1, 2012. In the meantime, the board authorized Stu to purchase replacement signs, posts and holders.

**Heating Assistance Fund** – Stu reported that Health Officer Cece Ohmart had suggested establishing a fund to assist Lamoine Residents with heating fuel purchase in the wake of significant cuts to the LIHEAP program. Stu said he would check to see if any other towns have a program to emulate. There was a brief discussion about how such a program could be administered, whether the town office would be the right entity to administer it, and who would qualify.

**Town Report Photo** – Selectmen said it would be fun to put out a request for candidates for the photo to appear on the 2011 town report cover. There was a brief discussion on how to display the entries.

**Meeting Minutes Requirement** – Stu reported that a recent change to the Freedom of Access Act requires all public boards to keep at least minimal minutes of their meetings. He noted that minutes have been elusive at times for the Conservation Commission, the Parks Commission, and the Local School Advisory Committee. He said that he sent an e-mail to all the board chairs explaining the law and requesting minutes.

**Meeting with Code Enforcement Officer** – After a brief discussion about scheduled, the Selectmen present opted to set up a meeting on Monday, November 28, 2011 at 7PM with the code enforcement officer with a one hour time limit to discuss compensation.

**Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Stu explained that the County Emergency Management Agency is putting together a mitigation plan with identified needs of floods, wildfires, and winter/summer storms. Selectmen reviewed a list of possible ideas, including generator installation at the town office and school, some road projects and added the possibility of a generator at the Cold Spring Water Company.

**Float at Bloomfield Park** – Bill said he was appalled to see the float structure that was “moored” in Blunt’s Pond at Bloomfield Park because it was an extremely dangerous situation. Stu reported that a letter has been sent both certified and by first class to the supposedly responsible party giving them until Sunday to remove it. Cynthia asked what happens if it’s not gone by Monday. Stu said it would be reported to the appropriate state agency.

**Maine Power Options** – Cynthia moved to authorize the treasurer to sign an agreement with Maine Power Options for aggregate electricity purchase. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 3-0.**

**Next Meetings** – Cynthia listed the dates for the next Selectmen meetings, the next regular one being December 1, 2011 at 7PM.

Selectmen then began a budget workshop to review the road, capital expenditures, self funding budgets and revenues. The Budget Committee will meet on Monday, November 21, 2011 at 6:30 PM.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst.